Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violations	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectants is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)								
Chlorine (as C12) (ppm)	4	4	0.5	0.3	0.5	2011	No	Water additive is used to control microbes
Halo acetic Acids (HAA5)(ppb)	NA	60	0.77	0.77	0.77	2011	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	3.2	0.77	0.11	2011	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	23	NA		2011	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics productions wastes
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	7	0	7	2011	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.89	0.92	1.89	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	2	0.4	1.9	2011	No	Run off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants								
Radium (Combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.3	0	0.3	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	1.5	1	0	6.1	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	4	4	8	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper- action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.09	2011	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead- action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	2.78	2011	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Violations and Exceedances

Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The Violation was at the Belen Industrial Park 1/1/2011 to 12/31/2011. Point of use treatment units were installed.

Unit Descriptions

Term	Definition
ug/L	ug/L : Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
ppm	ppm : part per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb : part per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L : picocuries per liter (a measure of redioactivity)
mrem/yr	mrem/yr : millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
NA	NA : not applicable
ND	ND : not detected
NR	NR : Monitoring not required, but recommended

Important Drinking Water Definitions

Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Containment Level Goal: The level of Contaminant in drinking water below which is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: the highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment
TT	TT: Treatment technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permissions not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG MRDL	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there no known expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State assigned Maximum Permissible Level

For more informartion please contact:

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To see a larger copy of this report do to http://www.belen-nm.gov

City of Belen 2011 CCR

Spanish (Espanol)

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua potable. Por favor lea este informe o comuniquese con alguien que pueda traducir la informacion.

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. Last year, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. We only detected 13 of those contaminants, and found only 1 at a level higher than the EPA allows. As we informed you at the time, our water temporarily exceeded drinking water standards. (For more information see the section labeled Violations at the end of the report.)

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791). There is no need to take any special precautions.

Where does my water come from?

Belen's Water comes from 5 wells located on the west mesa which pump from the San Juan aquifer.

Source water assessment and its availability

There is a sanitary survey on file with City of Belen

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

City Council meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of the month.

Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. City of Belen is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.